

## DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

**AMENDMENT DATE:** July 6, 2011  
**POSITION:** Oppose  
**SPONSOR:** California State Alliance of YMCAs and the  
California Collaboration for Youth

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 737  
**AUTHOR:** M. Walters

### **BILL SUMMARY: Organized Camps**

This bill would revise definitions for organized camps (OC), define organized day camps (ODC), and clarify statutes relating to child care regulation. This bill also would create regulations concerning employees of these camps and the camp's written operating plan.

### **FISCAL SUMMARY**

This bill would require the Department of Public Health (DPH) to revise regulations for organizations operating recreational programs meeting the revised definition of an OC. The DPH estimates this would require 0.5 limited-term positions and \$119,000 General Fund over a two-year period. This position would develop the criteria and requirements for the operational plan for day camps, meet with stakeholders and workgroups, prepare the regulations package, review public comments and prepare responses, prepare the rulemaking package and cost analysis, conduct research, and analyze national requirements for adoption of the regulations in California.

### **COMMENTS**

Finance is opposed to this bill because it would result in General Fund costs and would increase the size of the state's workforce. Given the state's current fiscal condition, expanding the scope of this program would be inconsistent with the Administration's plans to reduce state operations.

Existing law establishes the After School Education and Safety (ASES) Program to create incentives for establishing locally driven before and after school enrichment programs during school days and vacation days that partner public schools and communities to provide academic and literacy support and safe, constructive alternatives for youth. Existing law also permits organizations participating in the ASES Program to operate without a child care license provided they operate less than 30 hours per week.

This bill would allow those organizations operating in the ASES Program to increase their hours to 60 hours per week and still maintain their exemption from child care licensure.

Existing law exempts recreation programs operated by Girl Scouts of the USA (GS), Boy Scouts of America (BSA), Boys and Girls Clubs (BGC), and Camp Fire USA (CFUSA) from licensure.

This bill would add and define an ODC to allow these programs to be overseen by the DPH. This bill would add OCs and ODCs, as defined by the bill, as well as the YMCA, to the list of programs exempt from child care licensure. The bill also would require camps operated by cities or counties to meet the statutory requirements related to the operation of organized camps.

Existing law defines an OC as a site with program and facilities established for the primary purposes of providing an outdoor living experience for five days or more during one or more seasons of the year.

Analyst/Principal (0553) B. Nunes	Date	Assistant Program Budget Manager John Doyle	Date
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Department Deputy Director	Date
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Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

<b>BILL ANALYSIS</b>	Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)
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M. Walters

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This bill adds and defines an ODC as operating seasonally when school is not in session and focusing on group-based recreation and expanded learning opportunities. The bill states that all ODCs shall have a Director in charge that has at least two seasons of administrative or supervisory experience at an OC, and a staff adequate to carry out the program, when campers are present. The Director shall provide staff for the care, protection, and supervision of the campers. In addition, this bill provides that all employees of an ODC shall be required have a criminal record check

This bill redefines OCs to specify camps that offer programs of a minimum of five consecutive days. Programs held on OC sites fewer than five consecutive days must comply with the state's general safety and supervision regulations for day camps. This bill provides that YMCA, GS, BSA, CFUSA, BGC, Salvation Army, and Christian Camp and Conference Association (CCCA) camps shall be considered prototypes of an OC. Membership in the American Camp Association (ACA), the Association for Environmental and Outdoor Recreation, CCCA, the Western Association of Independent Camps, the BSA, the YMCA, or other similar camping associations is indicative that an organization is an OC or ODC.

Finally, this bill would require OCs and ODCs to file an operating plan with the local health department at least 30 days prior to operation. The operating plan must be posted on the premises, and if available, on the camp's website for public viewing. Further, if an OC or ODC constructs or operates educational facilities and programs, the OC and/or ODC must include provisions in its operating plan that would keep campers separated from individuals who use these facilities on a day use basis. The operating plan must also include provisions that meet recognized construction and operating standards of either the ACA, the Association of Challenge Course Technology, Project COPE, or an equivalent certification program.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)							
	LA	(Dollars in Thousands)							
	CO	PROP							
	RV	98	FC	2011-2012	FC	2012-2013	FC	2013-2014	Fund Code
4265/PublicHealth	SO	No	C	\$30	C	\$59	C	\$30	0001